



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket No. USCG-2023-0336]

Safety Zones in Reentry Sites; Tampa, and Tallahassee, Florida

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notification of enforcement of regulation.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is activating two safety zones for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Commercial Resupply Service 27 (CRS 27) mission, reentry vehicle splashdown, and recovery operations. These operations will occur in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Our regulation for safety zones in reentry sites within the Seventh Coast Guard District identifies the regulated areas for this event. No U.S.-flagged vessel may enter the safety zones unless authorized by the Captain of the Port St. Petersburg or a designated representative. Foreign-flagged vessels are encouraged to remain outside the safety zones.

DATES: The regulations in 33 CFR 165.T07-0806 will be enforced for the safety zones identified in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below for the dates and times specified.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this notification of enforcement, call or email Marine Science Technician First Class Regina Cuevas, Sector St. Petersburg Prevention Department, Coast Guard; telephone (813) 228-2191, e-mail Regina.L.Cuevas@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Coast Guard Captain of the Port (COTP) St. Petersburg is activating the

Tampa and Tallahassee site safety zones listed in 33 CFR 165.T07-0806(a)(4) and (a)(5), on April 14, 2023 through April 17, 2023, for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Commercial Resupply Service 27 (CRS 27) mission, reentry vehicle splashdown, and the associated recovery operations in the U.S. EEZ. These safety zones are located within the COTP St. Petersburg Area of Responsibility (AOR) offshore of Tampa and Tallahassee, Florida. The Coast Guard is activating these zones in order to protect vessels and waterway users from the potential hazards created by reentry vehicle splashdowns and recovery operations. In accordance with the general regulations in 33 CFR part 165, subpart C, no U.S.-flagged vessel may enter the safety zones unless authorized by the District Commander or a designated representative except as provided in § 165.T07-0806(d)(3). All foreign-flagged vessels are encouraged to remain outside the safety zones.

There are three other safety zones listed in § 165.T07-0806(a)(1), (a)(2), and (a)(3), which are located within the COTP Jacksonville AOR, in addition to a portion of zone listed in (a)(1) that is located in the COTP Savannah AOR, that are being simultaneously activated through a separate notifications of enforcement of the regulation document issued under Docket Numbers USCG-2023-0302, and USCG-2023-0331.¹

Twenty-four hours prior to the recovery operations, the COTP or designated representative will inform the public that only one of the five safety zones described in § 165.T07-0806, paragraph (a), will remain activated (subject to enforcement). This zone will remain activated until announced by Broadcast Notice to Mariners on VHF-FM channel 16, and/or Marine Safety Information Bulletin (as appropriate) that the safety zone is no longer subject to enforcement. After the CRS 27 reentry vehicle splashdown, the District Commander or a designated representative will grant general permission to

¹ These notifications of enforcement of the regulation can be found at: <https://regulations.gov> by searching for docket number USCG-2023-0302, and USCG-2023-0331.

come no closer than 3 nautical miles of any reentry vehicle or space support vessel engaged in the recovery operations, within the activated safety zone described in § 165.T07-0806, paragraph (a). Once the reentry vehicle, and any personnel involved in reentry service, are removed from the water and secured onboard a space support vessel, the District Commander or designated representative will issue a Broadcast Notice to Mariners on VHF-FM channel 16 announcing the activated safety zone is no longer subject to enforcement. The recovery operations are expected to last approximately one hour.

The Coast Guard may be assisted by other Federal, State, or local law enforcement agencies in enforcing this regulation.

Dated: April 12, 2023.

Michael P. Kahle,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard,
Commander, Sector St. Petersburg.